



TOWN OF VERNON

Office of the Mayor

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Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor

Michael J. Purcaro
Town Administrator

Dawn R. Maselek
Assistant Town Administrator

DRAFT MINUTES

Town of Vernon Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 11:00AM

Via Zoom Audio Teleconference

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Clay, Town Council Member; Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Recovery Officer; Bruce Klotter, President of Swiss Cleaners; George McGregor, Town Planner; Andrew Marchese, Zoning Enforcement Officer; Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director; Pauline Schaefer, Town Council Member; Lou Spadaccini, Town Attorney Patrice Sulik, Director North Central District Health Department and Daniel Wasilewski, Fire Marshal.

Members Absent: Russell DeBella, General Manager of Reins New York Style Deli Restaurant James Kenny, Chief of Police and Steven Prattson, Building Official

Additional: Dr. Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Vernon Public Schools and Cassandra Santoro, Recording Secretary

Roll call was performed at 11:01 AM by Cassandra Santoro.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. COVID-19 Incident Command Update

Michael Purcaro summarized the weekly Health District conference call by Director Patrice Sulik regarding mask use and misuse.

Patrice Sulik updated the committee that the State of Connecticut has had only one new COVID positive case to report between Monday (July 13th) and Wednesday (July 15th). She further explained that she is requesting, in writing, a more pressing and clear guidance on what can and cannot be enforced with mask use.

Discussion ensued.

4. Vernon Public Schools Update

Dr. Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Schools explained to the committee that School Administrators have been holding weekly meetings preparing for fall reopening. The plan the Vernon Public Schools is drafting will be sent to the State on July 24th for review and the following week will be sent to teachers for review. Dr. Macary summarized the plan and explained there will be four (4) key points for keeping students and teachers safe: cohorting, social distancing and facilities, transportation and face coverings. The reopening model will be enforced as long as the public health data continues to support this model. Additionally, parents and teachers will have the ability to utilize a virtual platform if they are not comfortable with sending their children back to school.

Discussion ensued.

5. Current Guidance and Orders

Shaun Gately explained that the Executive Orders provided by the State are ever-changing guidance. The Town continues to read through all executive orders and interpret the guidelines that best fit the Town of Vernon.

Mr. Gately summarized the most recent Executive Order: 7GGG and 7HHH.

Shaun Gately further informed the committee that there have been no Phase 3 updates as of yet.

6. Local Recovery and Reopening Strategy

Vernon will continue meeting with businesses. Daniel Wasilewski explained that there are no new business applications for opening at this time. All businesses that are currently open are doing well.

7. Next Steps

Michael Purcaro explained that this committee will continue to meet on a weekly basis.

8. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2020.

Approval of the minutes for July 9, 2020 meeting were moved by Pauline Schaefer and seconded by Daniel Wasilewski. No discussion. The motion passed with no opposition. Patrice Sulik abstained.

9. Next Meeting

Next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2020. Michael Purcaro expressed that if anyone from the committee has any specific topics they would like discuss to let him know and it will be added to the agenda.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:34AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cassandra Santoro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cassandra" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Santoro".

Cassandra Santoro,
Recording Secretary